



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

December 15, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AN EMERGENCY  
PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT  
PROJECT ID NO. RDC0014824  
BEVERLY BOULEVARD OVER RIO HONDO TEMPORARY BRIDGE  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1  
4 VOTES**

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to prepare the construction contract in the form previously approved by County Counsel, execute the contract, and establish the effective dates following receipt of approved Faithful Performance and Labor and Material bonds filed by the contractor for Project ID No. RDC0014824 - Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Temporary Bridge, Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera (1), G. B. Cooke, Inc., in the amount of \$773,525.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

To expedite the reopening of the bridge, on December 6, 2005, your Board authorized the Director of Public Works, or his designee, without advertising for bids, to negotiate and execute a contract on behalf of the County to install a temporary bridge and perform necessary appurtenant work and also to negotiate and enter into a separate agreement with a supplier to furnish, deliver, and lease, for up to 18 months, a

temporary bridge in accordance with Section 20395(e) of the Public Contract Code. The combined cost for the contract and agreement was not to exceed \$850,000.

We are prepared to enter into an agreement with ACROW Corporation of America to supply a temporary bridge at a cost of \$404,268 upon your Board's approval of this installation contract.

On December 15, 2006, a bid solicited from a responsible contractor for installation of the bridge was opened. Based on the bid received in the amount of \$773,525, the combined cost for the agreement to supply a temporary bridge and the bid received for installation of the temporary bridge is \$1,177,793. We do not believe that a lower cost for installation of the bridge can be obtained without significantly delaying the reopening of the bridge. The combined total cost for the bridge rental lease agreement, installation contract, and incidental engineering costs is currently estimated to be \$1,300,000.

We recommend that upon receipt of the necessary Federal approvals, your Board authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to execute a contract with G.B. Cooke, Inc., in the amount of \$773,525, and authorize and establish the effective contract dates following receipt of approved bonds and insurance filed by the contractor for this project.

The recommended construction contract is necessary to expedite the reopening of the bridge. Your Board's approval of the recommended contract and our subsequent execution of the contract will ensure the timely completion of the project.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by resuming access to motorists who travel on Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Channel.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

This project will be administered under the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (HBRR) Program covered by Agreement 71078 with the State of California. Under this program, Federal-aid grant funds will be used to finance a portion of the project cost. The remainder of the cost will be financed by the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera and the County. The Cities will contribute \$90,000 each, and the County will dedicate \$80,000 from the First District's Road Construction Program.

The County's contribution and the funding provided through the Federal HBRR Program and by the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera is included in the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Road Fund Budget.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The public interest and necessity require that this emergency work be done expeditiously to safeguard life, health, and property because Beverly Boulevard serves as a major artery for emergency vehicles, and the closure of the bridge across the Rio Hondo Channel has impacted emergency vehicle response times to and from the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera including the Beverly Hospital located just west of the Rio Hondo Channel.

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contract will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the faithful performance and payment bonds filed by the contractor.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

As an emergency project, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080 (b)(2) and (b) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15269 (b), (c), and (d) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The plans and specifications for the construction and installation of the temporary bridge include the contractual provisions, workmanship standards, and equipment requirements necessary for the prosecution of this project. The contract agreement will be in a form previously approved by County Counsel.

The specifications contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper considerations by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, and (4) requiring the contractor to comply with the Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law).

The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence or General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, the contractor was required to report False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported was considered before making this recommendation to award the contract.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Beverly Boulevard is currently closed in the vicinity of the proposed project. Construction of the proposed project will allow the reopening of Beverly Boulevard at the earliest possible date.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
December 15, 2005  
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**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE  
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance